

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A computer-readable medium or propagated signal having embodied thereon a computer program configured to receive information from a user, for use in generating data subscriptions, the medium or signal comprising one or more code segments configured to:

5 receive an input identifying a type of data to be distributed to data sites;
receive an input identifying a distribution criterion that defines the basis upon which the type of data is to be distributed to the data sites; and
store the type of data to be distributed and the distribution criterion for use in generating data subscriptions in a network of distributed computer systems operating an
10 application program having application data of various data types,
wherein the data subscriptions are generated based on the type of data to be distributed to data sites and the distribution criterion.

2. The medium or signal of claim 1 wherein the type of data to be distributed
15 to data sites comprises a business object type.

3. The medium or signal of claim 1 wherein the type of data to be distributed to data sites comprises a publication.

20 4. The medium or signal of claim 1 wherein the distribution criterion comprises an attribute of the type of data to be distributed.

5. The medium or signal of claim 1 wherein the distribution criterion comprises a distribution criterion based on a relationship of data with an employee that
25 uses a data site.

6. The medium or signal of claim 1 wherein the distribution criterion comprises a distribution criterion based on a responsibility of an employee that uses a data site.

7. The medium or signal of claim 1 wherein the distribution criterion comprises a query executable against portions of the application data.

5 8. The medium or signal of claim 1 wherein the distribution criterion comprises a distribution criterion that identifies two attributes of the type of data to be distributed such that both of the two attributes are required to match the application data to be distributed.

10 9. The medium or signal of claim 1 wherein the distribution criterion comprises a computer program that when executed defines a basis upon which the type of data is to be distributed to data sites.

15 10. A computer-implemented method for receiving information from a user for use in generating data subscriptions, the method comprising:
receiving an input identifying a type of data to be distributed to data sites;
receiving an input identifying a distribution criterion that defines the basis upon which the type of data is to be distributed to the data sites; and
storing the type of data to be distributed and the distribution criterion for use in
20 generating data subscriptions in a network of distributed computer systems operating an application program having application data of various data types,
wherein the data subscriptions are generated based on the type of data to be distributed to data sites and the distribution criterion.

25 11. The method of claim 10 wherein the type of data to be distributed to data sites comprises a business object type.

12. The method of claim 10 wherein the type of data to be distributed to data sites comprises a publication.

13. The method of claim 10 wherein the distribution criterion comprises an attribute of the type of data to be distributed.

14. The method of claim 10 wherein the distribution criterion comprises a
5 distribution criterion based on a relationship of data with an employee that uses a data site.

15. The method of claim 10 wherein the distribution criterion comprises a
distribution criterion based on a responsibility of an employee that uses a data site.
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16. The method of claim 10 wherein the distribution criterion comprises a query executable against portions of the application data.

17. The method of claim 10 wherein the distribution criterion comprises a
15 distribution criterion that identifies two attributes of the type of data to be distributed such that both of the two attributes are required to match the application data to be distributed.

18. The method of claim 10 wherein the distribution criterion comprises a
20 computer program that when executed defines a basis upon which the type of data is to be distributed to data sites.

19. A system for receiving information from a user for use in generating data
subscriptions, the system comprising a processor connected to a storage device and one
25 or more input/output devices, wherein the processor is configured to:

receive information from a user, for use in generating data subscriptions, the
medium or signal comprising one or more code segments configured to:

receive an input identifying a type of data to be distributed to data sites;

receive an input identifying a distribution criterion that defines the basis upon
30 which the type of data is to be distributed to the data sites; and

store the type of data to be distributed and the distribution criterion for use in generating data subscriptions in a network of distributed computer systems operating an application program having application data of various data types,

5 wherein the data subscriptions are generated based on the type of data to be distributed to data sites and the distribution criterion.

20. The system of claim 19 wherein the distribution criterion comprises a distribution criterion based on a relationship of data with an employee that uses a data site.

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